Scrapping of Centrally Sponsored Schemes

399. DR. MAM. RAMASWAMY: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to scrap some Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS);

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) the net savings due to scrapping of these schemes and

(d) the manner in which the saving is likely to be utilized?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) to (d) Planning Commission has recently undertaken an exercise regarding transfer/rationalization/review of the ongoing Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Few schemes have been identified for discontinuance which has been communicated to the Ministries/Department by Planning Commission.

Development of Infrastructure in Rural Areas

400. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the priorities fixed by the Planning Commission for the development of infrastructure in the rural areas of the country;

(b) whether the Commission hold its control over the programmes being run for this purpose;

(c) if so, the reasons for pathetic condition of water supply, electricity, education, healthcare and roads, particularly in the rural areas despite putting all our efforts;

(d) whether the Commission has marked certain laggard areas considered a failure as per the parameters of human development; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI M.V. RAJASEKHARAN): (a) and (b) Planning and development of rural infrastructure is mainly the responsibility of the States. The Central Government assists the States in their efforts by contributing a part of the resources through Central Assistance to State Plans and Centrally Sponsored Schemes. The Planning Commission does not control these